

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claims 1-24 (Canceled).

Claim 25 (Currently Amended): An optical switch configured to be mounted between first optical lines, each including one or more optical channels having a rank within their optical line, and one or more second optical lines, each including one or more optical channels having a rank within their optical line, each of the optical channels being configured to convey a light beam, the optical switch comprising:

selection means including at least one selection element configured to select a single optical channel from among a set of at least two optical channels of the first optical lines or second optical lines and not any other optical channel of the set, the optical channels of the set having ~~[[the]]~~ a same rank, the selection element including at least one deviation element associated with at least one deflection element configured to assume plural angular positions, the selection of the single optical channel being made according to an angular position of the deflection element; and

connection means for coupling the selected single optical channel to one of the channels of the second optical lines or of the first optical lines respectively, so that the light beam of the selected single optical channel only reaches one of the optical channels of the second optical lines or of the first optical lines.

Claim 26 (Currently Amended): The optical switch as claimed in claim 25, wherein ~~[[it]]~~ the optical switch is reversible.

Claim 27 (Withdrawn): The optical switch as claimed in claim 25, wherein one of the angular positions is a rest position located between two active positions.

Claim 28 (Currently Amended): The optical switch as claimed in claim 25, ~~wherein each of the optical channels is configured to convey a light beam~~, wherein the deviation element is a deviation lens, and ~~the optical channels of the set are configured such that light beams originating from the optical channels take their origin at a focal point object of the deviation lens~~, the deflection element ~~being placed~~ is disposed at ~~[[the]]~~ a focal point image of the deviation lens.

Claim 29 (Previously Presented): The optical switch as claimed in claim 25, wherein each of the at least one selection element is combined into one or more selection modules.

Claim 30 (Currently Amended): The optical switch as claimed in claim 29, wherein each selection module includes N selection elements connected in parallel, and ~~[[the]]~~ deviation elements and ~~[[the]]~~ deflection elements of the N selection elements ~~being~~ are arranged as small rods of N elements.

Claim 31 (Previously Presented): The optical switch as claimed in claim 29, wherein the connection means is located between two selection modules.

Claim 32 (Previously Presented): The optical switch as claimed in claim 29, wherein the connection means is located after a selection module.

Claim 33 (Previously Presented): The optical switch as claimed in claim 25, wherein the connection means includes at least one optical connection in free or guided space.

Claim 34 (Currently Amended): The optical switch as claimed in claim 33, wherein the optical connection means in free or guided space comprises at least one small rod of lenses.

Claim 35 (Withdrawn): The optical switch as claimed in claim 25, wherein the connection means includes a liaison module.

Claim 36 (Withdrawn and Currently Amended): The optical switch as claimed in claim 25, wherein the connection means includes point-to-point switching elements.

Claim 37 (Withdrawn): The optical switch as claimed in claim 36, wherein the point-to-point switching elements include a cascade with a first deflection module, a liaison module, and a second deflection module.

Claim 38 (Withdrawn): The optical switch as claimed in claim 37, wherein the first and second deflection modules include small rods.

Claim 39 (Withdrawn): The optical switch as claimed in claim 37, wherein the cascade is inserted between a first shaping module and a second shaping module.

Claim 40 (Withdrawn): The optical switch as claimed in claim 39, wherein the first and second shaping modules include small rods.

Claim 41 (Withdrawn): The optical switch as claimed in claim 37, wherein a deflection module of the point-to-point switching elements includes one or more conjugation elements between one or more first deflection elements and one or more second deflection elements.

Claim 42 (Withdrawn): The optical switch as claimed in claim 41, wherein the conjugation elements of a deflection module are arranged in a small rod.

Claim 43 (Withdrawn): The optical switch as claimed in claim 41, wherein the first and second deflection elements are arranged as small rods.

Claim 44 (Withdrawn): The optical switch as claimed in claim 41, wherein one or more deflection elements of at least one deflection module of the point-to-point switching elements are combined with one or more deflection elements of the selection means.

Claim 45 (Withdrawn and Currently Amended): The optical switch as claimed in claim 25, ~~having~~ wherein there are 2N input channels and N output channels for the optical switch, ~~wherein~~ the selection means includes a selection module of N selection elements mounted in parallel, and the connection means includes a point-to-point switch, the selection module and the point-to-point switch including small rods of N lenses and small rods of N mirrors configured to assume at least two angular positions.

Claim 46 (Withdrawn and Currently Amended): The optical switch as claimed in claim 25, ~~having~~ wherein there are 2N input channels and 2N output channels for the optical switch, ~~wherein~~ the selection means includes an input selection module, an output selection

module, and a switching means of a point-to-point switch located between the input selection module and the output selection module, ~~the selection modules~~ input selection module and the output selection module including N selection elements mounted in parallel, and the selection modules input selection module, the output selection module and the point-to-point switch including small rods of N lenses and small rods of N mirrors configured to assume at least two angular positions.

Claim 47 (Withdrawn): An optical switch having  $2N$  input channels and  $N$  output channels, comprising:

selection means formed by a selection module of  $N$  selection elements mounted in parallel;

connection means formed by a point-to-point switch, the selection module and the point-to-point switch including small rods of  $N$  lenses and small rods of  $N$  mirrors configured to assume at least two angular positions.

Claim 48 (Withdrawn): An optical switch having  $2N$  input channels and  $2N$  output channels, comprising:

selection means formed by an input selection module, an output selection module, and switching means formed by a point-to-point switch located between the input selection module and the output selection module,

the input and output selection modules including  $N$  selection elements mounted in parallel, the input and output selection modules and the point-to-point switch including small rods of  $N$  lenses and small rods of  $N$  mirrors configured to assume at least two angular positions.